

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BELGRA 04253 241253Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CU-02
OIC-02 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 IO-13 /076 W
-----074440 241256Z /43

O R 241215Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1170
INFO CSCE CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4253

FOR EUR/RPM

FROM USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE UR
SUBJ: BELGRADE CSCE MEETING: ERRONEOUS PRESS REPORT ON SOVIET
THREATS

REF: BELGRADE 4240 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE SEEN SEVERAL WIRE SERVICE REPORTS WHICH IN OUR VIEW
SERIOUSLY MISREPRESENT TONE AND PURPOSE OF SOVIET REP'S
JUNE 23 PLENARY INTERVENTION. ACCORDING TO WIRE SERVICE
REPORTS, SOVIET REP IN EFFECT THREATENED TO BREAK UP CONFERENCE
UNLESS SOVIETS GOT TYPE OF AGENDA THEY DESIRED. TONE OF
REPORTS WAS THAT BELGRADE PREPARATORY MEETING WAS AT CRISIS
JUNCTURE.

2. THIS SORT OF CRISIS WAS DIFFICULT TO PERCEIVE EVENING OF
JUNE 23 AT RECEPTION HOSTED BY FINNISH AMBASSADOR. ALL DELS
TOOK SOVIET INTERVENTION IN STRIDE, AND COMMON INTERPRETATION
WAS THAT PROVIDED IN OUR REPORTING CABLE FOR JUNE 23, NAMELY,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BELGRA 04253 241253Z

THAT SOVIETS WERE CAUTIONING ABOUT POSSIBLY SERIOUS CON-
SEQUENCES FOR CSCE IF DELEGATIONS SOUGHT OVER LONG
PERIOD OF TIME "FRIVOLOUSLY" TO REWRITE FINAL ACT.
SOVIET REP SPOKE FAIRLY TOUGHLY IN EFFORT TO DISCOURAGE
AT EARLY STAGE DEVELOPING CONSENSUS ON AN AGENDA WHICH
WOULD BE DISADVANTAGOUS TO THE SOVIETS, AND HE NO DOUBT
SOUGHT TO FEED CONCERNS OF MORE WOBBLY NATO ALLIES AND

NEUTRALS. SOVIETS THEMSELVES SEEMED AWARE, EVENING OF JUNE 23, THAT THEIR LANGUAGE MIGHT HAVE BEEN OPEN TO SOME MISINTERPRETATION. A SOVIET DELEGATION SPOKESMAN TOLD BBC THAT THEY HAD NOT MEANT TO MAKE A THREAT IN PLENARY, AND AT FINNISH PARTY, THEY PUT LINE OUT THAT PROPOSED POLISH AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT AGENDA, WHICH CAME AFTER SOVIET INTERVENTION, WERE INDICATIVE OF CONTINUED WARSAW PACT INTEREST IN NEGOTIATION.

3. IN SHORT, WE SEE NO SIGN THAT SOVIETS ARE ABOUT TO ADOPT OLD JAKOB MALIK UN TACTICS AND STAGE A WALKOUT EITHER LITERALLY OR FIGURATIVELY. THEIR DIPLOMATIC PARADIGM FOR TIME BEING AT LEAST IS MORE V.I. MOLOTOV-- "OLD IRONPANTS".

4. WIRE SERVICES, LIKE REST OF PRESS, HAVE BEEN FRUSTRATED AT LACK OF BELGRADE DRAMA. THEY CAME EXPECTING TO REPORT CONTEXT BETWEEN EAGLE AND BEAR AND HAVE GOTTEN INSTEAD A CONTEST BETWEEN TORTOISES INTENT ON IMPORTANT BUT HARD-TO-UNDERSTAND TECHNICALITIES. THERE HAS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE TENDENCY TO SEIZE ON ISOLATED BITS OF INFORMATION AND GIVE THEM MORE DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION THAN THEY DESERVE IN CONTEXT OF LENGTHY NEGOTIATION. USDEL WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO KEEP MATTERS IN PERSPECTIVE IN OUR REPORTING TELEGRAMS.

SHERER

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BELGRA 04253 241253Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MEETING AGENDA, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, THREATS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELGRA04253
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770226-0622
Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770620/aaaaarnl.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 22664977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BELGRADE 4240
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2039754
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BELGRADE CSCE MEETING: ERRONEOUS PRESS REPORT ON SOVIET THREATS
TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, UR, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/22664977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009